

0090658Z DEC 72 ZFF-1 ZF

FM THE WHITE HOUSE TOHAK 111

PARIS

25X1

ZEM

UNCLAS WH29855

25X1

TOHAK 111

TO GEN. HAIG

FM THE SITUATION ROOM

INDOCHINA

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

FOR 1ST TIME, SAID CBS, HANOI PRESS HAS HINTED PEACE IS ON THE WAY. ARTICLE SAYS THERE COMES A TIME TO ABANDON WARFARE FOR POLITICAL BATTLE. US SEES STATEMENT AS "SIGNIFICANT" AND AS PREPARATION OF N. VIETS FOR AGREEMENT....AND NBC NOTED REPORTS OF TROUBLE IN TALKS, BUT ADDED THAT SVN FOR. MIN. LAM IS RESIGNED TO ACCORD WHICH HE SAYS WILL BE MADE EVEN IF SAIGON DOESN'T AGREE W/ALL PROVISIONS.

ABC'S ROLFSON SAID THAT SINCE HAK MADE HIS ESTIMATE OF 3-4 DAYS, THERE'VE BEEN 2 WEEKS OF DIRECT TALKS PLUS WEEKS OF DELAY AND NOW MORE TALKS ARE SCHEDULED. INDICATIONS ARE THAT PROBLEMS ARE MUCH TOUGHER THAN ANTICIPATED. LAST WEEK, ROLFSON NOTED, US CAUTIONED AGAINST PESSIMISM; NOW IT WARNS OF OVEROPTIMISM. ABC FILM OF HAK W/STAFF AND HAK AND THO IN "LONG GOOD-BYE."... NBC'S DOBYNS SAID HAK MAINTAINED SMILE AND SILENCE. BUT TALKS ARE MORE RELAXED; HAK SHOWN GREETING THO AS WOULD ANY GOOD SUBURBANITE. AND DOBYNS NOTED "AN ALMOST CARNIVAL ATMOSPHERE" W/PRESS ON LADDERS AND NEIGHBORHOOD ALONG FENCES TRYING TO CATCH A GLIMPSE OF NEGOTIATORS STROLLING.

DOBYNS NOTED ONE REPORTED PROBLEMS IS LACK OF AGREEMENT ON ICC AND HE CITED THE WARNINGS AGAINST OVEROPTIMISM. BUT, HE CONCLUDED, NOT ONE CLOSE TO TALKS SUGGESTS THAT 'THERE'S TOO MUCH TO BE OVERCOME FORAN ACCORD.'

COLLINGWOOD FOR CBS CALLED TALKS CORDIAL, INFORMAL AND EVEN W/OUT AGENDA. THO HAK AND THO ARE CLEARLY ADVERSARIES, THEY JOKE W/EACH OTHER, EXCHANGE JOKES SUCH AS THE REPEATED ONE ABOUT EXCHANGING PROFESSORSHIPS AND THE IRRELEVANT QUESTION -- IN LIGHT OF COMPLETE RECORDS -- ABOUT WHO DOES THE BUGGING AT EACH SESSION. ATMOSPHERE AND FOOD HAVE BOTH IMPROVED, SAID COLLINGWOOD.

MESSAGES TO RN AND THE EVERY-NIGHT RN RESPONSE WHICH HAK READS
1ST THING IN MORNING. NOT MUCH TIME FOR HAK AND WOMEN, SAID
COLLINGWOOD WHO NOTED KISSINGER FEELS HIS REPUTATION HELPED KEEP
OCT. SESSIONS SECRET AS PRESS WAS MORE CONCERNED W/ HIS POSSIBLE
DATES THAN THE TALKS. HAK REMAINS CONFIDENT OF AGREEMENT SOON
W/ ANOTHER 2-3 WEEKS OF WRAP-UP CONSULTATIONS -- AND THEN A VACATION
IN THE SUN, CONCLUDED COLLINGWOOD.

UPI SAYS IT WAS REPORTED THAT US DEMANDS FOR MORE SPECIFIC
ASSURANCE ON THE REMOVAL OF NVA HAD SPARKED COUNTER-DEMANDS FROM
HANOI FOR RELEASE OF THOUSANDS OF SO-CALLED POLITICAL PRISONERS
HELD BY SVN....SAYS AP: "MORE THAN 6 WEEKS AFTER HAK (SAID)
THAT 'PEACE IS AT HAND,' WARNINGS AGAINST EXCESSIVE OPTIMISM CAME
FROM US, FRENCH, SVN AND COMMUNISTS."

UPI SAYS ROGERS WAS DISAPPOINTED THAT AN AGREEMENT HAS NOT
BEEN REACHED IN TIME FOR HIM TO SIGN IT IN PARIS THIS WEEKEND....
VC SPOKESMAN LY SAID: "...VC FURTHER SAID THE US IS ONLY PRETENDING
IT IS ON THE VERGE OF SIGNING IMMEDIATELY. IT ACCUSED RN OF
"PSYCHOLOGICAL WAR TACTICS."

GVN SAID IT HAS INITIATED A "POLITICAL STRUGGLE CAMPAIGN"
TO PREPARE THE SVN PEOPLE FOR A CEASEFIRE....THIEU REPORTEDLY
WILL GO BEFORE THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TUESDAY TO ASK AT LEAST A
3 MONTH EXTENSION OF HIS 6-MONTHS' SPECIAL-DECREE POWERS.
OBSERVERS ALSO SPECULATED HE WOULD MAKE A MAJOR STATEMENT ON
A POSSIBLE SETTLEMENT. HE MAY ALSO APPEAL TO THE ASSEMBLY TO
SUPPORT HIS STAND ONE WAY OR THE OTHER.

ABC'S GILL TOLD OF INFORMATION THAT THOUSANDS OF NVA
REGULARS HAVE SHED THEIR MILITARY UNIFORMS AND PUT ON BLACK
PAJAMAS OF VN PEASANT AND VANISHED INTO CIVILIAN POPULATION.
ALLIED "OPERATION HIDE-AND-SEEK" HAS TRACED 30,000 OF THEM INTO
LAOS, CAMBODIA AND SVN, SAID GILL AND ANOTHER 40-50,000 ARE
EXPECTED TO FOLLOW. SAIGON FEARS THIS DEVELOPMENT COULD WRECK
PEACE AND GILL NOTED THIEU HAS ALL-OUT SUPPORT, EVEN FROM HIS
CRITICS, FOR A TOTAL NVA-PULLOUT, A NEAR-IMPOSSIBLE CONCESSION
FOR HAK TO OBTAIN, CONCLUDED THE ABC REPORTER.

ABC NOTED US BOMBINGS, 82 COMMUNIST ATTACKS IN SOUTH
AND VC ORDERS TO CADRES TO USE POLITICAL AND MILITARY PRESSURE
TO GET US TO SIGN....CBS NOTED STATE CONFIRMED THAT CONTINGENCY
PLANS ARE UNDER WAY TO SEND UP TO 100 MORE FSOS TO SVN IN
EVENT OF AN AGREEMENT

REPLACED BY ALEXIS JOHNSON.

THE NAT'L COUNCIL OF CHURCHES URGED AN IMMEDIATE HALT TO US BOMBING AND SERVICES OF PENITENCE AND THANKSGIVING WHEN THE SHOOTING STOPS. IT TERMED THE CONTINUED KILLING AND DESTRUCTION IMMORAL, "ESPECIALLY THE CONTINUED MASSIVE BOMBARDMENT" BY US.

NBC W/FILM OF STROMBECKER TOY EXEC AS HE EXPLAINED INCREASED PRODUCTION OF WAR TOYS--CHILDREN WILL ENJOY FANTASIZING MORE W WAR ONCE ITS REALITY IS GONE. HE SAID AFTER OTHER WARS, MILITARY TOYS HAVE ALWAYS SOLD BETTER THAN DURING THE CONFLICT AND W/VN WINDING DOWN, THEY EXPECT DEMAND FOR WAR TOYS TO CORRESPONDINGLY INCREASE.

OTHER FOREIGN AFFAIRS

THE WEST CALLED ON USSR TO AGREE TO MBFR NEXT AUTUMN AND TO ACCEPT "FREER MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE, IDEAS AND INFORMATION."

NBC/ABC NOTED THAT IRELAND GAVE AN OVERWHELMING "YES" TO PM LYNCH'S PLEA FOR CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE DEMOTING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH FROM ITS "SPECIAL POSITION."

CHILE DISMISSED AS "PREHENSIBLE," "WRONGFUL AND CONTRADICTION" US STATEMENTS MADE IN REACTION TO ALLENDE'S UN SPEECH.

THE US INTENDS TO GRANT ASYLUM TO 3 CUBANS WHO APPARENTLY HIJACKED A CUBAN GOVERNMENT BOAT TO FLORIDA, THE MIAMI NEWS SAID.

BY 65-40 W/21 ABSTENTIONS, AN AFRICAN MOVE TO REJECT THE CREDENTIALS OF S. AFRICA WAS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

MARCOS ANNOUNCED RN IS SENDING A SURGEON FROM CALIF. TO HELP REPAIR THE DAMAGE DONE TO HIS WIFE.

CBS NOTED THAT LAIRD EXPECTS TO BEGIN CLOSING BASES NEXT YEAR THAT COULD CUT MORE THAN \$1 B A YEAR FROM THE BUDGET AFTER 1975.

900

#2785